

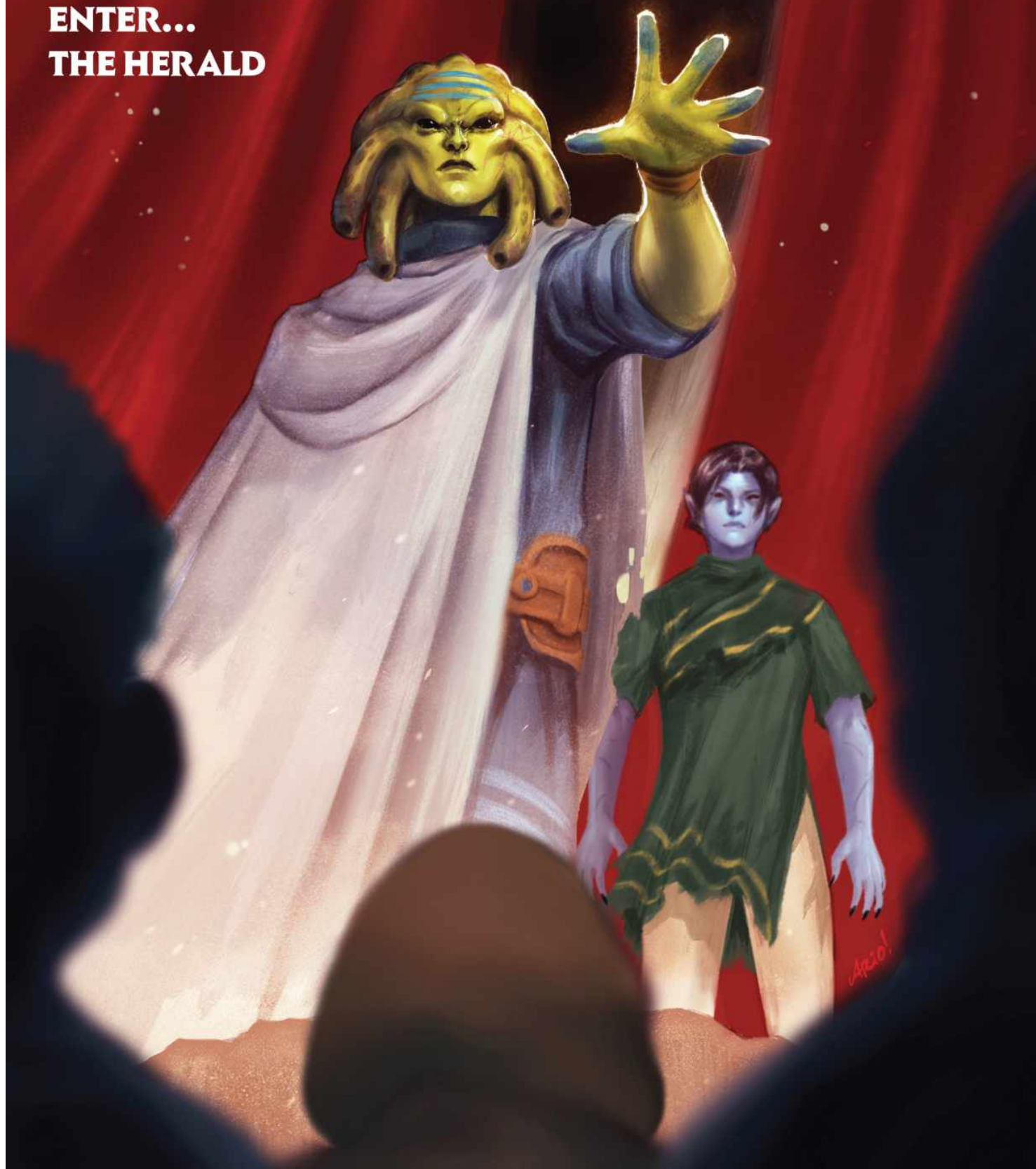


SCOTT
BROCCARDO
WILLIAM

STAR WARS

THE HIGH REPUBLIC

ENTER...
THE HERALD



STAR WARS

TIMELINE

THE HIGH REPUBLIC



FALL OF THE JEDI



THE
PHANTOM
MENACE

ATTACK OF
THE CLONES

THE CLONE
WARS

REVENGE OF
THE SITH

REIGN OF THE EMPIRE



THE
BAD BATCH

SOLO:
A STAR WARS
STORY

OBI-WAN
KENOBI

AGE OF REBELLION



REBELS

ANDOR

ROGUE ONE:
A STAR WARS
STORY

A NEW HOPE

THE EMPIRE
STRIKES BACK

RETURN OF
THE JEDI

THE NEW REPUBLIC



THE BOOK OF
BOBA FETT

THE
MANDALORIAN

RISE OF THE FIRST ORDER



RESISTANCE

THE FORCE
AWAKENS

THE LAST JEDI

THE RISE OF
SKYWALKER

THE HIGH REPUBLIC

BALANCE OF THE FORCE

CHAPTER IV: THE HERALD OF THE OPEN HAND

Tensions are rising as Jedha's Festival of Balance approaches. The Convocation of the Force hopes the festivities will bring the various churches and religions of the Holy City together, but mistrust and hostility run wild.

Jedi Vildar Mac and Matty Cathley were caught sneaking into the Temple of the Kyber with disgraced former Guardian of the Whills Tey Sirrek. Sirrek was expelled, leaving Vildar and Matty to investigate the alleged robbery of a Kyber statue from the Temple's corridors.

But you can't keep a good Sephi down. Tey snuck back into the Temple with his faithful droid, SK-0T, only to discover a bomb planted outside Archivist Zumeg's office, a bomb that seconds later tore a hole in the Temple's wall....

CAVAN SCOTT **ANDREA BROCCARDO** **FRANK WILLIAM**
Writer Artist Colorist

VC's ARIANA MAHER **ARIO ANINDITO**
Letterer Cover Artist

BENGAL; MARGUERITE SAUVAGE **CARLOS LAO**
Variant Cover Artists Book Design

MIKEY J. BASSO **DANNY KHAZEM** **MARK PANICCIA** **C.B. CEBULSKI**
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For Lucasfilm:

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JEDI MAC.
YOU NEED TO LIE
BACK. LET THE TRAGIA
LEAVES DO THEIR
WORK.

THIS IS
RIDICULOUS.
WHAT'S WRONG WITH
AN HOUR IN A
KOLTO BATH?

VILDAR,
PLEASE. LISTEN
TO REPRESENTATIVE
SUSALEE. SHE'S
TRYING TO
HELP.

THE CONVOCATION
BUILDING, JEDHA.



MATTY, WE
NEED TO CHECK
ON ARCHIVIST
ZUMEG.

NO, YOU
NEED TO HEAL.
ARCHIVIST
ZUMEG...



WAIT--



--WHAT AREN'T YOU TELLING ME?



JEDI MAC, VILDAR, ARCHIVIST ZUMEG PASSED INTO THE GARDEN BEYOND THIS MORNING.

HE'S DEAD?

I'M SO SORRY.



THEN IT WAS ALL FOR NOTHING.

VILDAR, YOU DEFLECTED THE BOMB. USED THE FORCE TO PROTECT THEM FROM THE BLAST...



"TO PROTECT US."

"ARCHIVIST ORANALLI IS ONLY ALIVE BECAUSE OF YOU."





...BUT WHAT
IF I WAS
WRONG?

WHAT
INDEED, BIG
GUY?

THE TEMPLE
OF THE KYBER.

WHAT
WAS THAT?

HMM? OH,
NOTHING, JUST
TALKING TO
MYSELF.

I'M THE
ONLY ONE WHO
LISTENS, AFTER
ALL?



NO, YOU
WEREN'T.

HEY,
HANDS
OFF!

WHAT
IS THAT?

NOTHING,
NOTHING AT
ALL.



A COMBUD?

VILDAR,
WHERE ARE YOU
GOING?

OH, THAT'S
WHERE IT WENT?
THAT'S THE TROUBLE
WITH EARS LIKE
THIS.

THINGS
GET LOST IN
THERE. I HAVEN'T
SEEN THAT IN
MONTHS.



THEN YOU
WON'T MISS
IT NOW.



STILL WANT
TO PLEAD YOUR
INNOCENCE,
TRAITOR?

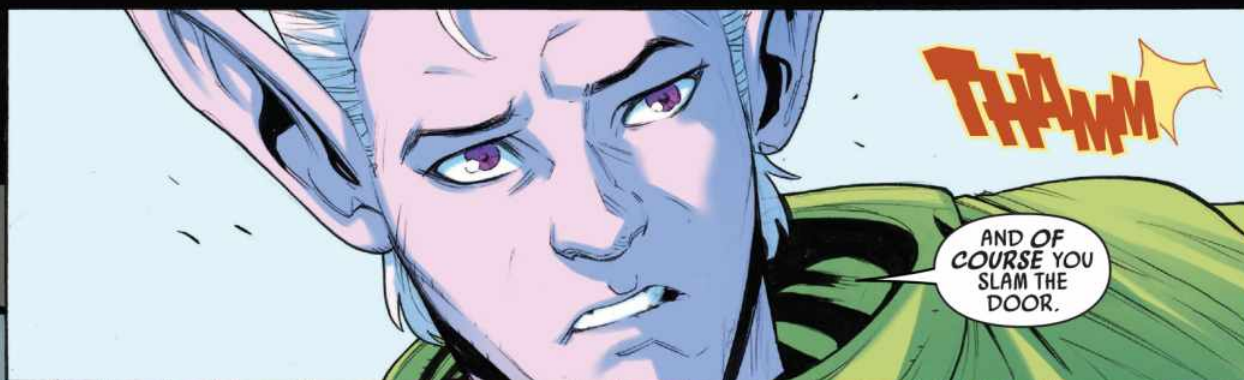
WOULD
IT MAKE ANY
DIFFERENCE?



WHATEVER
YOU THINK OF ME,
I WAS *TRYING* TO
DEACTIVATE THE
DETONATOR.

BECAUSE
YOU'D BEEN
DISCOVERED.

NO.
TO SAVE
EVERYONE'S
LIVES!



AND OF
COURSE YOU
SLAM THE
DOOR.



I MEAN, WHEN HAS
ANYONE BELIEVED
A WORD I SAY?



THE CONVOCAION OF THE FORCE.

JEDI MAC, I UNDERSTAND FROM REPRESENTATIVE FLORENT THAT YOU DISCOVERED THE ACCUSED WITH THE EXPLOSIVE DEVICE IN HIS HAND YOURSELF.



KILAN T'DARA, CHURCH OF THE FORCE REPRESENTATIVE.

YES, BUT--
BUT NOW YOU QUESTION WHETHER HE WAS TO BLAME AT ALL.



VILDAR JUST ISN'T SURE.
MATTY,
AND IF THERE IS ANY DOUBT, SURELY, WE SHOULD INVESTIGATE--
MATTY!



TARNA MIAK, SORCERER OF TUND.

THERE WILL BE AN INVESTIGATION, THE GUARDIAN OF THE WHILLS ARE INVESTIGATING.
THIS TEY SIRREK IS KNOWN TO THEM, AFTER ALL.

AND THAT'S PRECISELY MY POINT, REPRESENTATIVE MIAK. MY OWN DEALINGS WITH SIRREK HAVE BEEN... FRUSTRATING, TO SAY THE LEAST.

WHAT IF MY INITIAL IMPRESSIONS COLORED MY JUDGMENT? I MAY HAVE JUMPED TO A CONCLUSION, MUCH LIKE THE GUARDIANS THEMSELVES...









--WHAT DO
THEY SAY ABOUT
REST AND THE
WICKED?

PRESENTING
WERTH PLOUTH,
HERALD OF THE
PATH OF THE
OPEN HAND.



WELCOME TO JEDHA, HERALD. I AM KILAN T'DARA, REPRESENTATIVE OF THE CHURCH OF THE FORCE AND *CHAIR* OF THE CONVOCAATION.

I UNDERSTAND THAT YOU AND YOUR ORGANIZATION WISH TO JOIN OUR NUMBER?



ON THE CONTRARY, REPRESENTATIVE, I AM HERE TO CALL FOR THE IMMEDIATE *DISBANDING* OF THIS TRAVESTY OF A COUNCIL.



WHAT?

SIRENÉ, PLEASE. LET HIM SPEAK.

WE OF THE PATH OF THE OPEN HAND BELIEVE IN THE *SANCTITY OF THE FORCE*. THERE ARE THOSE AMONG YOU WHO REPEATEDLY *ABUSE* ITS POWER, MANIPULATING THE FORCE FOR THEIR OWN ENDS.

THE LONTO...THE MATUKAI...

...THE JEDI.





OF ALL THE ARROGANCE... THIS IS **PREPOSTEROUS**.

SPOKEN LIKE A TRUE **ABUSER** OF THE FORCE.

TELL ME, REPRESENTATIVE, ARE YOUR ROBES **CRIMSON** TO HIDE THE **BLOOD** THAT STAINS YOUR HANDS?

REPRESENTATIVE KILAN, I **REFUSE** TO BE ADDRESSED IN THIS MANNER. THE DISCIPLES OF THE WHILLS--



ARE ONE OF THE OLDEST AND MOST RESPECTED ORDERS ON JEDHA... YES, WE ARE AWARE OF THAT, ELRIS.

HERALD, THE CONVOCATION WAS ESTABLISHED TO PROMOTE UNDERSTANDING AND DEBATE BETWEEN OUR VARIOUS ORDERS--



AND YET YOU REFUSE TO ACKNOWLEDGE OUR CONCERNS, TO CONSIDER OUR TRUTH.

IF DISBANDING IS OUT OF THE QUESTION--

IT IS.

--THEN MAY I SUGGEST AN ALTERNATE COURSE OF ACTION--



--THE IMMEDIATE **PROHIBITION** OF ALL FORCE MANIPULATION UNTIL OUR "THEORY" CAN BE FULLY INVESTIGATED.



PROHIBITION? AS IN...STOPPING US FROM USING THE FORCE?







I HAVE IT ON GOOD AUTHORITY THAT THE VENERABLE YACOMBE WERE RECENTLY **INSULTED** AND **ATTACKED** WHEN THEY PETITIONED TO JOIN THE CONVOCATION.

THEY BARELY ESCAPED WITH THEIR LIVES.

THAT'S NOT WHAT HAPPENED. WELL...NOT REALLY.



ARE WE SURPRISED? NO, BECAUSE THE CONVOCATION EXISTS ONLY TO FURTHER ITS OWN **AGENDA**, TO MAINTAIN A **LIE** THAT PLACES THE ENTIRE GALAXY IN DANGER.

WHY, EVEN AS I APPROACHED THE CHAMBER, I OVERHEARD A PLOT TO DECEIVE YOU, THE GOOD PEOPLE OF JEDHA.



EARLIER TODAY, THERE WAS AN EXPLOSION AT THE TEMPLE OF THE KYBER, A DISASTER THAT **KILLED** A SENIOR DISCIPLE AND LEFT MANY OTHERS INJURED.



YOU HAVE BEEN TOLD IT WAS AN **ACCIDENT**, BUT THAT IS NOT THE CASE. THE EXPLOSION WAS A **DELIBERATE ATTACK** UPON THE CITY, THE BLAST CAUSED BY **THERMAL DEVICE**.

HERALD, PLEASE. THAT IS ENOUGH.



AND HERE WE HAVE A MEMBER OF THE CONVOCATION, A **SORCERER OF TUND** NO LESS--A COVEN WHOSE CRIMES ARE LEGION, WHOSE TREACHERY IS **LEGEND**.

I IMPORE YOU TO **STOP**. THIS ISN'T HELPING





THIS IS
TURNING
UGLY.

YOU HEARD
WHAT MASTER LEEBON
SAID. WE SHOULD ONLY
ACT IF ASKED.

AND YOU
BELIEVE THAT,
DO YOU?

I BARELY
KNOW WHAT
TO BELIEVE.



DEFILERS
OF THE
FORCE!
LIARS AND
DEVIANTS!



AAH!

KRAKK



HEY! YOU
CAN'T DO
THAT!

LET HIM
SPEAK!



STILL
WANT TO
WAIT?

DO WE
HAVE ANY
CHOICE?





TO BE CONTINUED....

NEXT ISSUE!



THE BATTLE OF JEDHA HAS DEGUN.
AS THE HERALD OF THE OPEN HAND STOKES THE FIRES OF JEDHA, VILDAR MAC AND MATTY CATHLEY ARE OVERCOME BY UNCONTROLLABLE FEAR. ALL THE WHILE, TEY SIRREK IS A PRISONER OF THE GUARDIANS OF THE WHILLS. CAN HE USE THE CHAOS TO ESCAPE? AND WHO ARE THE MYSTERIOUS STRANGERS RANSACKING THE TEMPLE OF THE KYBER? IS NOWHERE SAFE?

COMING SOON

**By Cavan Scott and
Andrea Broccardo
Cover by Yanick Paquette**



THE HIGH REPUBLIC: THE BLADE #3

COMING SOON

CHECKLIST

- THE HIGH REPUBLIC #1
- THE HIGH REPUBLIC #2
- THE HIGH REPUBLIC: THE BLADE #1
- THE HIGH REPUBLIC #3
- THE HIGH REPUBLIC #4
- ☐ THE HIGH REPUBLIC: THE BLADE #2
- ☐ THE HIGH REPUBLIC #5
- ☐ THE HIGH REPUBLIC: THE BLADE #3
- ☐ THE HIGH REPUBLIC #6
- ☐ THE HIGH REPUBLIC #7
- ☐ THE HIGH REPUBLIC: THE BLADE #4
- ☐ THE HIGH REPUBLIC #8
- ☐ THE HIGH REPUBLIC #9
- ☐ THE HIGH REPUBLIC #10

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